AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 17, 2002

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2001-02 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2276

Introduced by Assembly Member Dutra

February 20, 2002

An act to amend Section 2904 27903 of the Vehicle Code, relating to traffic safety *hazardous materials*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2276, as amended, Dutra. Traffic safety Vehicles: hazardous materials: emergency materials.

Existing California law requires any vehicle transporting hazardous materials to display placards in the manner prescribed by federal regulations applicable to commercial transportation.

This bill would exempt authorized emergency vehicles operated by peace officers from the state placarding requirement in certain circumstances.

Under existing law, there exists a California Traffic Safety Program, which is a comprehensive plan in conformity with the laws of this state to reduce traffic accidents, deaths, injuries and property damage resulting from accidents. Under existing law, the California Traffic Safety Program is required to include a local traffic safety program designed to encourage the political subdivisions of the state to establish traffic safety programs consistent with the objectives of the statewide program.

This bill would provide that the program is also designed to encourage the implementation of programs.

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Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no ves. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 2904 of the Vehicle Code is amended to SECTION 1. Section 27903 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 2 3 read:
- 27903. (a) Subject to Section 114765 of the Health and 4 Safety Code, any vehicle transporting any explosive, blasting 5 agent, flammable liquid, flammable solid, oxidizing material, corrosive, compressed gas, poison, radioactive material, or other hazardous materials, of the type and in quantities that require the 9 display of placards or markings on the vehicle exterior by the 10 United States Department of Transportation regulations (49 C.F.R., Parts 172, 173, and 177), shall display the placards and 11 12 markings in the manner and under conditions prescribed by those 13 regulations of the United States Department of Transportation.
 - (b) This section does not apply if the vehicles are to the following:
 - (1) Any vehicle transporting not more than 20 pounds of smokeless powder or not more than five pounds of black sporting powder or any combination thereof.
- (2) An authorized emergency vehicle as defined in paragraph 20 (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 165, operated by a peace officer as defined in Sections 830.1 and 830.2 of the Penal Code, when transportation is required within the scope and course of law enforcement explosives detection or removal duties, provided one of the following conditions applies:
 - (A) The law enforcement agency operating the vehicle complies with regulations adopted by the California Highway Patrol pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 34501, notwithstanding Section 34500 and subdivision (a) of Section *34501*.
- 30 (B) The peace officer possesses an exemption issued by the 31 commissioner, who may require additional transportation restrictions as deemed appropriate. 32
- 33 read:

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2904. The California Traffic Safety Program shall include a 34 local traffic safety program designed to encourage the political

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- subdivisions of this state to establish and implement traffic safety
 programs consistent with the objectives of the California Traffic
 Safety Program.